

January 9, 2019

Emily Ryan U.S.EPA, Office of Pesticide Programs SFIREG Project Officer

RE: Biannual Report for SFIREG Cooperative Agreement, X8 – 83937301

Dear Ms. Ryan,

Please find below our biannual report for AAPCO's Cooperative Agreement, X8 – 83937301, with the U.S. EPA to support the State FIFRA Issues, Research, and Evaluation Group. The report is based on the Programmatic Conditions found within our Grant Award. We do not have subawards or contracts, and therefore I do not believe we are subject to the reporting requirements found in the EPA Subaward Policy for EPA Assistance Agreements. In lieu of direct assistance by our Project Officer due to the federal shutdown, please consider this a best effort on our part to ensure we are continuing to meet the grant requirements. Please forward to the appropriate supervisor in GISD. If the report should be approached differently, we look forward to your feedback upon your return.

Sincerely,

Amy Sullivan

**AAPCO Executive Secretary** 

CC: Gabrielle Sather-Olson, AAPCO Treasurer
Tony Cofer, AAPCO President
Rose Kachadoorian, AAPCO President-Elect
Liza Fleeson Trossbach, SFIREG Chairperson
Robin Holder, U.S. EPA, GIMD Grants Specialist
Rick Keigwin, U.S. EPA, OPP Director



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## A. Cybersecurity Grant Condition for Other Recipients

We do not believe we are subject to this requirement as we do not collect or manage environmental data. We do not have a dedicated persistent interface between an Agency IT system and an external IT system for the purpose of transferring information. We have not used the funding to support any subawards.

## B. Subaward Monitoring Activities

We have not used the funding to support any subawards.

C. We requested and received approval from our Project Officer to provide coffee and light snacks in keeping with the U.S. General Services Administration definition at the SFIREG meetings for the SFIREG committee members.

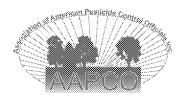
D. Semi-annual progress report for September Joint Working Committee (JWC) and December Full SFIREG meeting:

The September JWC was not held due to Washington D.C.'s declaration of an emergency prior to the arrival of Hurricane Florence. Although the committee chairs did not want to cancel the meeting, the threat of having committee members and attendees stuck in Washington D.C. in the event the hurricane did pose too great of a health and safety risk, and the potential of significant increased costs. Our Project Officer was aware of and kept in close communication during the decision making process. The PO communicated that the meeting did not have to be re-held and that the decision would not negatively impact the cooperative agreement or evaluation of outputs.

The Full SFIREG was held December 3-4, 2018 at U.S. EPA Potomac Yards. The minutes, papers, presentations, and regional Pre-SFIREG reports may be found here: <a href="https://aapco.org/sfireg-meeting-minutes/">https://aapco.org/sfireg-meeting-minutes/</a> Topics at the meeting included affiliate and joint working committee updates and reports, Dicamba, FIFRA Section 24(c) Guidance, Biostimulants, a new web-based grant reporting system, C&T Rule implementation issues, Ingredient Transparency workgroup, Pollinator Protection, Commodity Fumigation white paper, Integrated Collection and Transfer of Information and Evidence Collection white paper, and the Region 9 Cannabis Section 24(c) white paper.

Our cooperative agreement funds were also used to ensure attendance of AAPCO and SFIREG members at the Friday November 30, 2018 EPA/AAPCO/ASPCRO/SFIREG Learning Exchange meeting. This meeting was also held at U.S. EPA Potomac Yards. This use of cooperative agreement funds was included in our budget and grant application.

On Wednesday December 5, 2018, AAPCO's Board of Directors and the SFIREG Chairperson attended a Standards of Excellence training to ensure proper oversight of the grant. The training was provided by Sharon Anderson, by way of Maryland Nonprofits. It was held at the Marriott Renaissance from 9 am to 12 noon, and was considered very



valuable by the board, and generated many topics of discussion for the summer BOD meetings. Our PO approved this use of cooperative agreement funds prior to the training.

The discussion of expenditures, along with a comparison of the percentage of the project completed to the project schedule, and an explanation of significant discrepancies is being reviewed by our Board and will be sent in as soon as possible to complete Section D.

E. 1) a comparison of actual accomplishments with the anticipated outputs /outcomes specified in the assistance agreement work plan; 2) reasons why anticipated outputs/outcomes were not met; and 3) other pertinent information, including, when appropriate, analysis and explanation of cost overruns or high unit costs.

Section D addresses these questions.